

The background features a large, faint circular seal of the United States Marine Corps Training Center Mountain Warfare Training Center. Overlaid on this are numerous smaller logos from various military units and commands, including the US Army Armor School, Department of the Navy, Marine Corps Intelligence Association, Marine Corps Development Command, U.S. Marine Forces Atlantic, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Air Force Special Operations Command, and others. The central text reads:

JOINT MOUNTAIN WARFARE OPERATIONS AND TRAINING WORKSHOP—QUICK LOOK



Workshop Caveats



- **Workshop was a thorough “first look” at Mountain Warfare Operations and Training**
- **Except for SOCOM and JFCOM, no other CoComs were represented**
- **Briefing is a summary of the working group results**
 - **Serves to document subject matter expertise from the units/organizations represented**
 - **Will need to be vetted through the Services**



***Workshop Topics**



- **#1--Identify current mountain warfare training capabilities across the Services and our coalition partners**
 - **#2—Identify established mountain warfare training requirements as well as requirements not currently being addressed**
 - **#3—Identify training/training facility gaps between warfighter requirements identified in #2 and the capabilities from #1**
 - **#4—Use concept mapping to develop solutions/investments which resolve the gaps identified in #3. Focus on how best to integrate current and future mountain warfare training capabilities into Joint National Training Capability mission rehearsal exercises**
- * Note--Compile separate lists for each topic which address the Operational and Tactical levels of warfare**



Topic #1—Current Capabilities



US Marine Corps

- **Mountain Warfare Training Center
(Bridgeport, CA)**

Navy

- **Basic Cold Weather Maritime Training Course
(Kodiak, AK)**



Topic #1—Current Capabilities



US Army

- **Army Warfare Training Center**
(Camp Ethan Allen, Jericho, Vermont)
- **High Altitude Aviation Training School**
(Eagle, CO)
- **Alaskan Environmental Training Center**
(Ft Greeley, AK)

****Ranger School**

(Dahlonaga, GA)

****10th Special Forces Mountain School**

(Ft Carson, CO)

**** Use various undeveloped Mountain Training locations**



Topic #1—Current Capabilities



United Kingdom (Royal Marines)

- **Leverages US and Norwegian Mountain /Cold Weather Training Capabilities**

Norway (Norwegian Army)

- **Allied Training Center - North (Harstad)**
- **Allied Training Center - South (Voss)**
- **Numerous Home-station Training Facilities**

Holland (Royal Dutch Marines)

- **Leverages Scottish (various Mtn locations) and Norwegian Mountain/Cold Weather Training Capabilities**

Canada (Canadian Forces)

- **Canadian Parachute Centre (Trenton, Ontario)**
 - **OPR for Advanced Mountain Course (various Rocky Mtn locations)**
- **Western Area Training Centre (Wainwright, Alberta)**
 - **OPR for Winter Warfare Instructor Course (high Arctic locations)**



Topic #2—Established Requirements



Army Ground

- 10th Mtn Div and Alaskan units have Cold Weather requirement, but no Mountaineering Requirement.
- **Attendance at school is on a voluntary basis** - Mountaineering School in Vt (4 wks for Basic Skills Crs, and 4 wks for Aslt Climber Crs) provides students with an SQL-"E".
- 3rd BN 172 MTN (ARNG) has requirements for Mountain Training

Navy

- **No formal requirement- Commander's prerogative** - Seal Trng- 3 weeks in Kodiak, AK during Trng pipeline. After SEALs join platoons they then may attend MCMWTC for 1-3 week packages..



Topic #2—Established Requirements



Marine Corps Ground

- MCMWTC has unit and individual training avail in Summer and Winter. Units may or may not get to either, depending on their TEEP. Neither training block is required for deployment.
- MEU(SOC) has requirement for 12 Assault Climber's per MEU(SOC) Battalion. Assault Climber Course at I MEF and II MEF SOTG and at MCMWTC
- Marine Corps has Summer & Winter ML Courses. Most infantry units have ML representation however, there is no requirement for an ML and there are no TO line #s for MLs except at formal schools.



Topic #2—Established Requirements



Army Aviation

- Army Aviation- informal guidance from Army G-3 that all Commanders, IP's and Unit Trainers will attend HAATS (1 or 2 wk course)
- SOCOM syllabus at Kirkland AFB has high altitude flying reqmts. But also uses HAATS
- HAATs - refresher reqmt. Every 3 years
- AFSOC PJs 171 personnel trained in MTN PR



Topic #2—Established Requirements



International

- All Dutch Marines are Mtn & Arctic Warfare Capable. Mtn package is 4 weeks. Arctic Warfare pkg is approx 5 weeks
- Canadian 1 Mtn Co per LtBN
- AFSOC PJs 171 personnel trained in MTN PR
- Norwegian focus on winter operations in the mountains



Topic #2—Requirements Not Addressed



- COCOM Requirements
 - OPLANS/CONOPS
 - METL's
- Training environment out of context with operational requirements...METT-T
- MTN/Cold WX JTF staff expertise
- No planning or schools for operational level staffs.
- TRADOC 1995 identified 1209 "E" and never followed through
- Must train units in the cold weather environment prior to deployment
 - In theater or elsewhere
 - Concern for training in theater due to requirements of the war



Topic #2—Requirements Not Addressed



- US Army
 - Unit skills in the environment need more attention
- Norwegian Army
 - Driver's Training in mountains/cold weather is critical
 - Combined Arms Training



Topic #2—Requirements Not Addressed



- British Royal Marines
 - Standardized tri-service Mountain/Cold Weather Training Doctrine/Standard in development
 - Determine/Define the ratio of instructors
 - Altitude training (8k – 10k)
 - Need to train medical staff better with regards to cold/mountain injuries



Topic #2—Requirements Not Addressed



- Marines
 - Caves, confined spaces, tunnels are a renewed requirement that is not being formally trained
 - Mountain – Urban environment
 - SASO training in mountainous village areas
 - Lethal versus non-lethal assault planning
 - Enhanced Marksman training in the mountainous environment
 - Mountain live-fire training
 - Mountain heavy equipment training
 - Artillery, tanks
 - Conventional - SOF interoperability
 - Increased air-ground fires/coordination in the mountains
 - Exploit use of simulation to support mountain training
- III MEF SOTG
 - Are not training mountain/cold weather skills due to locale



Topic #2—Requirements Not Addressed



- Marines (cont)
 - Need more staff training/presence in the mountains
 - Crucial to appreciate the impact of mountain ops
 - Inject more realism with Forward Operating Bases in the mountains
 - Mountain convoy training
 - Fire Support Planning in the mountains
 - Operational level



Topic #3—Gap Analysis



- Services do not have good SA on Mountain Warfare Training bases/stations
- Need to make training battlefield more asymmetrical/more complex
- Difficulty enforcing environmental realism
- Continue to improve responsiveness to applying lessons learned
- Leaning into standardizing technique, and some levels of training, while retaining service unique skillsets
- No shortcuts in training - be mindful of **training duration**
- Need to incorporate cold weather training into the standard PME school progression
- Need to be able to concurrently address individual/collective at the tactical/operational level



Topic #3—Gap Analysis



- Need to focus on anticipated future deployments
- OPTEMPO=high, money=low - training is the first thing to be cut
- Standardization of environmental - multi-service and multinational
- More multi-service/multinational training - to include more exchange of members
- Combined arms training in the mountain environment
- Sustainment training
- Need work tracking our trained personnel and tying it into assignment policy



Topic #3—Gap Analysis



- More air-ground training, large-caliber live fire in the mountains
- Targetry in mountain to support tactical and operational training
- Mountain urban interface training
- Better sharing of lessons learned
- Need to connect COCOM needs with training environment focus
- Joint MEDEVAC/CASEVAC training
- Exploit virtual/constructive/distributed opportunities to enhance training
- Lack of planning or schools for operational level staffs
- C2 integration is a shortfall; LNO/ExchangeO presence is needed



Topic #3—Gap Analysis



- TRAP/CSAR integration
- CAS in the mountains
- Instrumentation should be exploited
- Lethal and Non-Lethal fires (PsyOps, CA, Cultural Education)
- CSS support
- Physical Fitness: More focus on endurance vice speed
- Joint tactical movements
- Communications training
- SOF integration
- Familiarity with interpreters
- FiST / TACP / CAS and JCAS
- Familiarity with Lat/Lon navigation



Topic #3—Gap Analysis



- Insufficient interoperability to support appropriate doctrine, training and equipment fielding to achieve integrated capability.
 - Inter/intra service equipment commonality.
 - Closer cooperation in specific equipment development for cold weather and mountain operations.
 - Increase service exchange of instructors at mountain training sites/courses.



Topic #3—Gap Analysis



- Formally recognize the requirement for high altitude and environmental training prior to unit commitment to combat operations.
- Services identify training requirements within the POM cycle and balance requirements with facilities and courses
- Current Training venues as resourced have Limited Output
- Synchronize scheduling between interoperable units
- Documentation of Training
 - Professional Development (Individual)
 - Unit Level (All personnel within the unit)
 - Joint/Interoperability (All personnel from All units involved in joint/interoperability training)



Topic #3—Gap Analysis



- No SASO type villages or convoy lanes available in a mountainous environment
- No target sets or AAA threat simulators available in a mountainous environment
- MAWTS and Air Force Fighter Weapons School do not cross-talk with HAATS
- Little ability to teach CH-46/53 specifics at HAATS



Topic #3—Gap Analysis



- Units are not taking advantage of expertise resident within other services and allied forces.
- Given current OPTEMPO deploying units are given insufficient time to effectively prepare and plan for their employment in a specific AOR
- No central repository for DOD Training facilities and capabilities
- Formally recognize the requirement for high altitude and environmental training prior to unit commitment to combat operations



Topic #4--Solutions



- Identify an executive agent for doctrine and training in mountainous areas.
- Interim solution - Establish a joint mountain operations and training board to evaluate concepts, doctrine, training and material for mountain operations.
 - Integrate international partners into the joint mountain training board.
 - Conduct an annual joint mountain operations and training conference.
- Services identify mountain and cold weather operations personnel requirements within T/O-MTOE's.
- Services identify training requirements within the POM cycle and balance requirements with facilities and courses



Topic #4--Solutions



- Encourage Services and utilize T2 funds to develop villages and convoy lanes at Mtn Warfare Centers
- Encourage Services and utilize T2 funds to develop target sets and AAA threat simulators within Mountain Warfare training areas
 - Outreach to aviation units
- Requirements for different Services would be facilitated by the establishment of permanent Service LNOs at Mountain Warfare Training Centers



Topic #4--Solutions



- HAATS establish dialogue with MAWTS and AFSOC DOT.
- Tasking to Air Land Sea Applications Office to develop multi-service manual on Ground and Air Operations in Cold Weather and Mountainous environments
- Conduct training at entry level and career level schools on Mountain/CW training areas and facilities
- Concept of “Train as You Fight” reinforced to senior leadership, I.E., mountain training for OEF-designated units
- Units notified in sufficient time to develop and execute a training program tailored to the operational area



Topic #4--Solutions



- Formal requirement for environment training pre-deployment will force use of applicable facilities.
 - Consider making requirements part of deployment order process
 - Ensure sufficient funding and manning to implement
- Consider exchange program between MAWTS-1, AFSOC and HAATS
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Topic #4--Solutions



- Use military training vice 'Rogue Training'
 - **Military mule packing vice using civilian contracting**
 - **HAATs vice civilian helicopter contracts**
- JFCOM and Service Components need to work more closely with COCOMs to identify unit requirements and unit skill set pre-requisites.
- More emphasis on aligning Joint METLs and Joint Training Plans promulgated to Service force providers
- Greater analysis of Joint Tactical Tasks as it pertains to addressing the requirements above.
- JFCOM should establish a website or office of primary responsibility (OPR) which provides contact information on specific environments/ training venues



Topic #4--Solutions



- SA, Education & Standardization
 - Examine exchange program
 - Search for opportunities to increase exposure/use
 - Small Unit Exchange
 - Propose an Annual Mountain Warfare Conference (Joint Sponsored)
 - More timely & prolific sharing of lessons learned (Joint & Allied)
 - Consider information sharing mechanisms at the Joint Level
 - Consider working groups
 - Increase opportunities for policy-maker site-visits to mountain training venues to increase understanding of mountain and environmental training



Topic #4--Solutions



- Consider assigning additional MOS for Mountain Leaders and Assault Climbers(USMC)
- Conduct an annual joint mountain operations and training conference



Topic #4--Solutions



- Realistic Training
 - Evaluate appropriate use of Live, Virtual, and Constructive training opportunities
 - Live
 - Ground & Air Instrumentation, MILES, SESAMS
 - Targetry, Emitters, Battlefield effects
 - Live Fire combined arms training in the mountains
 - Virtual
 - Individual and team skills (TACP, FiST)
 - Aviation
 - Networked trainers for unit/team training
 - Constructive
 - Representation of live forces via instrumentation
 - Distributed training via network
 - C4I impact
 - After Action Review
 - Ground versus Perceived truth
 - Realistic training while deployed



Topic #4--Solutions



- Conventional/SOF Interoperability
 - Increase SOF/Conventional training area dual-use
 - Scheduling
 - Familiarity
 - Increase exchange of personnel/units at other services/allies' schools/training centers
- Need to balance Operational Risk Management vs. Realistic Trng
 - Environmental considerations need to be part of Readiness Reporting



A silhouette of a person's head and shoulders is visible on the right side of the frame, looking out over a vast, flat, snow-covered landscape. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, orange glow that fills the sky and reflects off the snow. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds. The overall mood is contemplative and serene, despite the cold environment.

Leadership under winter conditions (1)

- The winter is relentless and unforgiving for the unprepared
- Details are extremely important
- Good small unit leadership is a key to success, especially when soldiers are tired, wet, cold and stop paying attention to crucial details
- The individual must learn to live with the snow, the cold and changing weather conditions, otherwise he may panic when the going gets tough
- Some survival equipment you just do not leave behind - you never know when you need it
- The buddy principle is important - always be two together who feel responsible for each other.

Leadership under winter conditions (2)

- When using LTVs off road always be two vehicles together
- Frost injuries come quickly, especially when riding ski-doo's, but may
- Dehydration is a challenge even during winter
- It is possible to move under quite bad conditions, but you must know and you must know when to stop.
- Maintenance - as always - critical. When using LTVs each man regardless of rank must have basic skills in maintenance and some frequent rep
- Map, compass, GPS critical for both survival and mobility. In some unmap - reading skills are mandatory for everybody.





Way Ahead



- Brief outcome of workshop to T2 SAG
 - Recommend establishment of a JIIM Mountain/CW Training Board
- Consider briefing outcome of workshop to SROC
- Develop a Mountain/CW strategic communication plan
- Develop a joint overarching Mountain/CW training strategy
 - Establish better connectivity with COCOM
 - Look to JNTC for operational and tactical level venues/joint context
- Schedule annual Mountain/CW workshops



QUESTIONS

